

**Remarks:**

Claims 1, as amended, together with its dependent Claims 2 to 12, is presented for reconsideration.

The invention is intended to simplify the process of self-help production of videos of events, e.g., college or high school wrestling meets, swim meets, or even club frisbee contests, which are made ready for viewing by alumni, boosters, or other interested persons on the Internet. The intention is that the production be as self-help as possible, that is, the production is carried out by any available students or athletic department personnel, and does not require a high-cost, heavily equipment-intensive professional production of the type that is carried out by a crew from a commercial television broadcast or cablecast station. The recorded video production is transmitted by courier or other means to a central clearing house, at which the tapes or DVDs are converted or formatted into digital form for storage and webcasting. The clearing house is also responsible for editing the content of the video program, in addition to any reformatting and converting. This means, at a minimum, adding titles and background, perhaps adding a music background track, or cutting out or trimming "dead time" i.e., time-outs or other times when there is no activity of interest taking place. The clearing house can also add school logos and other materials to the program. By having this done at the clearing house, it frees up the students and athletic department personnel, who are not television professionals, from these tasks that would be tedious and time consuming for the self-help crew, but which can be done easily and quickly at the clearing house. The result is a presentation quality video of the wrestling meet, swim meet, or other contest, and which will provide the subscriber or viewer with an enjoyable viewing experience while watching the event on his or her computer screen.

Because the costs involved in producing and webcasting these athletic meets and games are so much smaller than the costs associated with a typical video broadcast, this invention makes it possible for the so-called minor sports at any scholastic or other

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institution to provide the games and meets to its alumni, student body, and anyone else.

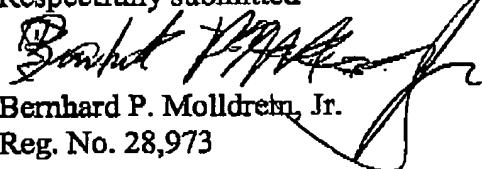
Claim 1 and its dependent claims were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being allegedly obvious and unpatentable over Ellis et al. in view of Chen et al. and Broadcast.com (of record).

Ellis et al. relates to a home video system that can be tied to a cable casting network, and where a user can prepare a personal video program that is transmitted to the video cablehead, where it can be stored on a server, and can be viewed later by subscribers or via the Internet. Ellis provides for conversion of the video program, i.e., from one format into another, i.e., into MPEG, as stated at column 4, lines 6 to 18. This reformatting does not affect the contents of the video program, and does not constitute nor suggest editing the contents of the video program at Ellis et al.'s distribution facility, or at any sort of clearing house.

Chen et al. only relates to a technique of deriving stills from video and adding back the accompanying sound. Broadcast.com is concerned with a facility for listening to audio-only broadcasts of scheduled collegiate athletic events, and does not suggest any sort of self-help technique. Neither of these references suggests the amendatory matter in Amended Claim 1. The remaining claims depend from Claim 1 and are believed allowable for that reason, as well as on the basis of the limitations introduced in the dependent claims.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully urges that the Claims now being asserted, namely, Claims 1 to 12, clearly define over the prior art, and requests early and favorable consideration.

Respectfully submitted

  
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